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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

14 WEST 49TH STREET, NEW YORK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Museum of Modern Art Film Library has contributed a large section to the Summer Exhibition of the Museum of Modern Art now installed in the Museum's temporary galleries, concourse level, 14 West 49 Street, New York. The Film Library section is composed of more than two hundred motion picture stills from memorable and noteworthy films produced in this country from 1895 to 1937. ^{A + B} It is not in any sense a complete survey of the development of the American motion picture from its beginnings--such a survey would necessitate the showing of thousands of motion picture stills--but it serves to indicate some of the important steps in that development.

To the veteran movie-goer of the past forty years the stills shown in the exhibition will doubtless recall forgotten thrills and delights when the movies were young. The generation brought up on the talkies will probably regard the stills of the present day with matter-of-fact approval and look on those of the past as venerable but important relics. The thoughtful visitor of any age cannot fail to be impressed at the exhibition by the amazing development of this new art in the short space of four decades.

Under the general title of A Brief Survey of the American Film from 1895 to the Present Day, the films are divided into four periods. Titles of a few in the two early periods are given below.

1895-1903: Invention to First Story-Film

1895 - Wash Day Troubles, directed by Edmund Kuhn (Edison)

1896 - The May Irwin - John C. Rice Kiss

1898 - Cripple Creek Barroom (Edison)

1903 - The Great Train Robbery, directed by Edwin S. Porter (Edison)

Also a photograph of the "Black Maria" the first motion picture studio in America, at West Orange, New Jersey

1904-1915: From One-Reeler to Epic

1906 - The Night Before Christmas, directed by Edwin S. Porter (Edison)

1904-1915: From One-Reeler to Epic (continued)

- 1907 - Rescued from an Eagle's Nest, written, directed, and photographed by Edwin S. Porter with D. W. Griffith (Edison)
- 1909 - Gertie the Dinosaur, an animated cartoon by Winsor McCay
- 1910 - The Arcadian Maid, directed by D. W. Griffith with Mary Pickford and Mack Sennett (Biograph)
- 1912 - The New York Hat, directed by D. W. Griffith with Mary Pickford and Lionel Barrymore. Scenario by Anita Loos (Biograph)
- 1914 - The Million Dollar Mystery with Marguerite Snow and Donald Gallaher (Thanhouser)
- 1914 - A Fool There Was, directed by Frank Powell with Theda Bara and Edward Jose. (Fox)
- 1914 - The Whirl of Life with Irene and Vernon Castle (Cort)
- 1913 - Judith of Bethulia, directed by D. W. Griffith. First four-reel picture made in America.
- 1914 - Barney Oldfield's Race for a Life, with Mabel Normand (Mack Sennett)
- 1914 - Tess of the Storm Country, directed by Edwin S. Porter with Mary Pickford (Famous Players)
- 1913 to 1914 - The Perils of Pauline, directed by George Seitz and Louis Gasnier with Pearl White. (Pathe)
- 1914 - Caught in a Cabaret (The Waiter), directed by Mabel Normand and Charles Chaplin. (Keystone)
- 1915 - Enoch Arden, directed by Christy Cabanne under supervision of D. W. Griffith with Wallace Reid and Lillian Gish (Mutual)
- 1915 - Camille, directed by Albert Capellani with Clara Kimball Young. (World)
- 1915 - The Birth of a Nation, directed by D. W. Griffith with Lillian Gish and Henry B. Walthall. (Wark)

Also included in the exhibition are stills from noteworthy films in the two recent periods:

1916-1928: Rise of the Silent Film

1929-1937: The Sound Film